

Welcome address by IRENA Director-General, Mr. Adnan Z. Amin

I'm delighted to see familiar faces from last time, when we started our discussion for the first time, but this year I'm really pleased because we've been joined by a new group of legislators, and I think that the participation that we had at our inaugural meeting last year has been doubled by the participation that we have this year. So, I believe that this is a very important signal that we are going in the right direction in terms of our engagement with legislators.

It also attests to the importance of the issue and how, in different countries around the world, legislative frameworks are now seized more and more with the issue of a sustainable energy future and how to design policy and legal frameworks to achieve such a positive outcome.

For us this is a unique platform for informing our Agency's activities through your experience in formulating renewable energy policies and developing renewable energy legislation.

I've also often mentioned the importance of law makers for the creation of IRENA. Those of you who are familiar with this would have remembered that it was the vision of a very distinguished member of parliament, Herman Scheer, of the German Bundestag, who really led the charge for the creation of a new international organization, and I'm really delighted once again to have the pleasure of the participation of his daughter, Nina Scheer, who's also a member of the Bundestag, with us today.

As law makers, you are instrumental in formulating and approving laws that govern the energy sector and overseeing their implementation, and you have a crucial role in gathering the necessary public support to move these initiatives forward.

Through this Forum, IRENA is also seeking to support you in your various functions to allow you to better champion renewable energy in your national constituencies. We hope to further develop such a collaboration as we work towards a common goal: a world where everyone will have access to clean, sustainable and affordable energy.

This Legislators Forum is held the day before IRENA's seventh annual Assembly. In the coming two days, the Agency will be welcoming over a 150 country delegations and a huge number of business and civil society delegations for a meeting with a range of important programmatic discussions, including on renewable energy finance, on innovation and on energy access.

Holding both meetings in conjunction creates numerous opportunities for policy and decision makers to meet and I encourage you to seize this opportunity to strengthen the dialogue and collaboration amongst yourselves, but also with the official delegations, which will be participating in the IRENA Assembly.



We look forward to your guidance on how IRENA can best support you in bringing about a sustainable future; some countries are more advanced than others and that provides us also with the unique opportunity to share that information. I hope that the next few days will give us a much clearer idea of how we can see a collaborative vision for the future and how we can best support you.